



COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
County of Fairfax
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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Pardon Our Dust Community Meeting: Dredging of Lake Accotink
North Springfield Elementary School Cafeteria
Tuesday, December 6, 2005, 7:30 p.m.

With the Board of Supervisor's approval of \$17.8 million (1 penny on the Real Estate Tax Rate) for stormwater management projects, several projects have been moved forward that directly affect the Braddock District. Among these is the dredging of Lake Accotink in Springfield. The Braddock District office will be hosting a ***Pardon Our Dust Community Meeting*** on **Tuesday, December 6, at 7:30 p.m.** at **North Springfield Elementary School** for nearby residents and interested citizens to learn more about this project.

Since 2000, the Park Authority has been working on plans to remove silt that has been collecting in Lake Accotink. According to Park Manager Tawny Hammond, if dredging is delayed for very much longer, the lake will no longer be available for boating. After overcoming logistical difficulties involving where the silt would be deposited, and how it would be transported, the project stalled as construction costs throughout our area began to soar, creating a million dollar gap between project bids and funding approved for the project through a 2004 Park Bond Referendum. A portion of the Stormwater Fund closes that gap and allows the project to finally move forward. The entire cost for the dredging project is approximately \$8 million. The contractor doing the work is Mobile Dredging and Pumping Company.

The process will involve silt being removed by a dredging machine and hydraulic pumps that will run along the Norfolk Southern railroad and across Backlick Road to the Shirley Park Industrial Complex. Preparation of the disposal site is underway at this time, and nearby residents will soon see work begin with the laying of the pipeline. Completion is slated for fall of 2006. Programs and activities at the lake are not expected to be interrupted while the dredging is taking place. Throughout the project, the lake will continue to hold water.

For more information, an article about the dredging project that has been prepared by Lake Accotink Park staff is attached. I hope you can join us on December 6, and I look forward to seeing you then!

Sincerely,

Sharon Bulova

Attachment

Fairfax County Park Authority – Lake Accotink Article

For only the third time in 45 years, a dredging project at Lake Accotink is underway. The first phase of the three-phase project began September 29th, when the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors gave the contractor, Mobile Dredging and Pumping Company of Chester, Pennsylvania, notice to proceed.

The goal of the project is to remove 161,000 cubic yards of sediment from Lake Accotink. Doing so will create an average lake depth of six to seven feet. The dredge will be a hydraulic dredge, which means water will be kept in the lake at all times. The slurry (water and silt) will be pumped via a pipeline 2.8-miles to Virginia Concrete. This approach avoids the use of heavy trucks to transport the dredged material.

The project's first phase is the preparation of the disposal site at Virginia Concrete. Visitors to the park and nearby residents will not see anything happening at Lake Accotink Park until phase two, which will begin in mid-November with the construction of the pipeline that will ultimately pump dredged material to the disposal site. The pipeline is 14 inches high and will be the first physical sign of the project at the park. It will run along the railroad right-of-way, cross the entrance road near the camp office and enter the lake near the Small Pavilion. It will be covered with a steel plate where it crosses the road. The pipeline will be inspected daily by contractor staff.

The third and final phase of the project will be the actual dredging, which will begin with the equipment launch in late February 2006. The equipment, including two barges and three push boats, will be lowered onto the lake using a crane. The equipment will be readied to start dredging at the beginning of March 2006. The project will then take about a year to finish.

In addition to the pipeline and equipment on the lake, this third phase will bring construction trucks and possibly some fences around equipment to the park. One truck will most likely be kept on the beach during working hours; other trucks will be parked in the gravel employee parking lot.

The dredging equipment is scheduled to run weekdays only, 7:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. The sound level is expected to be comparable to that of typical construction sites.

At this point, there is no indication that normal park operations or programs will be disrupted. Spring trout fishing, summer camps, boat rental, and the annual Cardboard Boat Regatta will continue as planned.

All interested citizens are invited to attend a public meeting on the Lake Accotink Park dredging project on Tuesday, December 6th, at 7:30 p.m. The meeting will be held at North Springfield Elementary School, 7602 Heming Court, Springfield, Virginia 22151.

Information regarding this project is posted on the Fairfax County Park Authority's website (www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/accotink/index.htm) under the "Dredging Project" button. For further questions or to make comments, citizens can use the "online feedback form" at the bottom of that page.